

Site Name: PEELER'S CLEANERS

Alias(es):

City: RIVERDALE County or Parish: PRINCE GEORGE'S

State: MD

Refer to Report Dated:

EPA ID: MDN000306838

Report Developed By: STATE

State ID: MD-617

Report Type: PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT #001

- ☐ 1. Further Remedial Site Assessment Under CERCLA (Superfund) is not required because:
- ☒ 2. Further Assessment Needed Under CERLCA.  
Low priority for further assessment
- ☐ 3. Remedial study/cleanup needed.

#### Decision/Rationale:

The Peeler's Cleaners (PC) facility was identified in the June 2008 "Maryland Dry Cleaners Initiative Report" as a Level II priority site. Dry cleaners were targeted in this site discovery initiative due to the historic use of tetrachloroethene (PCE) in the dry cleaning process. Level II priority sites are defined as those facilities that have operated in the same location for greater than 50 years and facilities advertised under "Dry Cleaning Equipment Retailers" or "Cleaners and Dyers Suppliers". The PC facility operated as a dry cleaner from approximately 1950 thru 1997. From 1997 until 2008 the facility operated only as a pickup/dropoff location. The current owners of the site acquired the property in 2009. The dry cleaner facility has been razed and the site and immediate surrounding area redeveloped as a bank and commercial office complex. The site of the former dry cleaner facility is part of the parking lot for the complex.

#### Environmental History

The site was identified due to its longtime use as a dry cleaning operation and its location in a heavily populated urban area with many residents located very close to the former site. No environmental studies have been conducted at the site even though the site area was recently redeveloped. It is therefore unknown if a release of hazardous substances has occurred at the site.

#### Pathways and Exposure

Public water is supplied to the area residents almost exclusively from municipal supplies from the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission. There are only a handful of domestic wells located within a 4 mile radius of the former dry cleaner site.

Surface water in the area is not used as a potable source of water. The nearest surface water intake is more than 12 miles away from the former dry cleaner site. The site is located in the Anacostia River Drainage Basin. Some fishing does occur in the small creeks that drain into the Potomac River and there is report of endangered species in the nearby area.

Soils present the most accessible pathway at this site as there are a number of residential buildings within 200 feet of the site. No documentation of any environmental assessments has been produced in this area, neither when the dry cleaner was in operation nor when the dry cleaner site was razed and the area redeveloped as a bank and office complex.

#### Decision

A dry cleaner facility that operated for 50 years in a heavily populated urban area presents the potential of substantial risks if a release of hazardous substances from the former dry cleaning operation has occurred. The former dry cleaner facility has been razed and the area around the former site redeveloped but with the absence of either a Phase 1 or 2 environmental assessment being conducted, the potential risks from possible hazardous substances remains. EPA shares the concern of the Maryland Department of the Environment regarding said potential risks and recommends a Site Inspection be conducted at this site.

**Decision/Rationale (Continued):**

**Site Decision Made By:** JAN SZARO

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** 06/13/2013